JOURNAL

OF THE

BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

Vol. III. No. 20 June, 1938

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BRITISH SOCIETY OF DOWSERS

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OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY

(*a*) To encourage the study of all matters connected with the perception of radiation by the human organism with or without an instrument.

(*b*) To spread information amongst members, by means of a journal, lectures and other means, about the use of dowsing for geophysical, medical and agricultural and other purposes and for tracing objects animate or inanimate.

(*c*) To keep a register of dowsers for water, minerals, oil, and for other purposes.

RULES OF THE SOCIETY

I.—Membership.

The Society is open to all persons interested in radiation-perception.

The Council has power to appoint honorary members.

II.—Subscription.

The subscription is five shillings per annum, or three guineas for a life member.

III.—Management.

The Society will be managed by a Council consisting of a President, who will act as Chairman, and five members, one of whom will act as Treasurer and Secretary.

The President and members will be replaced as necessary by the Council, appointments being confirmed at a General Meeting.

All questions regarding the publication of the journal, lectures, meetings, etc., will be settled by the Council.

Decisions of the Council will be arrived at by correspondence if necessary, the facts being recorded in the Minute Book.

Decisions will be decided by a majority vote, the Chairman having a casting vote.

The Council has power to co-opt other members for special purposes.

IV.— Accounts.

The financial year will be from July 1st to June 30th.

Accounts will be published annually within two months after the end of the financial year.

Accounts will be audited privately.

V.—General Meeting.

A General Meeting will be held annually, and other meetings when considered necessary by the Council.

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NOTICES

We much regret to record the death of Mr. T. R. Whitley, who passed away very suddenly on April 11th. As our first Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, the Society owes him a debt of gratitude for all the strenuous work he did at our inception and during the four years which followed. On his place being taken by Lieut.-Colonel Edwards last year he was made a permanent Honorary Life Member in appreciation of his services.

* * * * *

A badge has been approved for members of the Society, consisting of a blue-enamelled ring, 7-8th inch in diameter, inscribed with the words "British Society of Dowsers." Within the ring is the traditional forked rod and below it the recognised symbol for "Aquarius," namely, two zigzag lines representing water.

The badge can be obtained from the Honorary Secretary in a small cardboard box for 1s. post free.

* * * * *

It has been arranged to hold the **Summer Meeting** this year in the grounds of Tyringham House (near Newport Pagnell, Bucks), which Mr. C. A. Konig has kindly placed at our disposal for the afternoon. A printed notice about the meeting is being enclosed with this Journal.

* * * * *

Angle rods with a swivel handle can be obtained from Messrs. Windley Bros., Crown Works, Chelmsford, for 6s. 6d. post free to any address in England.

* * * * *

Messrs. Devine and Co., St. Stephen's Road, Old Ford, London, E.3, supply pendulums of whale ivory, with central suspension and cavity for sample, at the price of 6s., and other dowsing instruments.

They also supply whalebone for rods, cut to size.

* * * * *

Pendulums of rosewood can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary at 3s. each.

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Communications for the Editor, and inquiries, should be sent to Colonel A. H. Bell, York House, Portugal Street, London. W.C.2.

EXPERIENCES FROM A GERMAN IN SOUTH AFRICA

By FRAU ANKA VON KNOBLAUCH

How I found out my Gift

When I was still very small, we children had a little garden of our own. All my flowers and vegetables grew bigger than those of my brothers and sisters, and they often were jealous. Our gardener smiled, and explained that I had "the lucky hand." When I grew up, and he had special flowers to plant, he let me do it.

I adored animals, and we had plenty of them, living on farms. Whenever an animal got sick, I was drawn to it in great sympathy. My father put me early on horseback, and we had often quite young ones and I learned to manage them quite well. One day one of our dogs got biliary fever. The veterinary doctor had no hope whatsoever and gave him up. In great distress I took him on my lap, stroked him, spoke to him for hours, and, strange to say, he recovered. The vet. could not understand it. I was about 16 years of age then.

When the war broke out we lived near Strassburg on a farm. Sometimes 30 officers, 100 horses and 40 soldiers stayed with us, till they had to move on. All their horses were very nervous. I was overjoyed when I was allowed to ride them, as they got calm under me, to the astonishment of the officers. We lived right in the war zone, but we did not mind the bombs and shells very much any more, you get used to even that. After the war I got married. My father-in-law was a wonderful water diviner; in fact, Major von Knoblauch was known all over Germany. He was the first to give the rod in my hands. It worked at once. To his great distress, I was not a bit keen, thought it was all rubbish, as he was also very interested in all psychic matters and I was afraid of that. Now he is gone, long ago, and I often wish I could discuss things of that kind with him, being an ardent follower.

After a short marriage, I became lady-in-waiting in Silesia. The duchess had a very precious dog, and one day he also got biliary fever. Two vets. tried their utmost, in vain; the dog was ready to die. Suddenly I remembered our dog, and I tried the same with him. It worked again. The dog recovered completely and never left my side, very much to the annoyance of the duchess.

Slowly we lost all our money in the inflation, and there was much to lose. I had to take up something. Having been on farms all my life, I took my exams. for Agriculture, and was an inspector, but that did not satisfy me. I learned, first, Beauty Culture, and then took up nursing. A lady confessed to me one day that she really did not need face massage, but whenever I treated her face her stomach ache got better. That made me think, for the first time, that I possessed healing power. Now I began to read and to study magnetism and healing. More and more I took people who felt sick. The success grew. But I gave out too much, I became exhausted, and had a breakdown, knowing not at that time how to re-fill myself. It was a blessing in disguise, because I came in the hands of the famous Dr. Brauchle, who had at that time a Nature Cure Home near Berlin. He cured me, and from that moment I took up Nature Cure Study. He realized my strong magnetism and urged me to heal. In 1930 I came out with a relation of mine to this country and started my healing work.

Practical Work

I am known in Cape Town as Health Specialist, Magnetic Healer and Water Diviner. I work with the rod, the pendulum, and I magnetise either touching or not touching the body. I treat also my patients in a special healing circle spiritually. I had the great joy to meet in England also Dr. Brunler. He tested my magnetism, and was very satisfied with the results, being strongly charged.

The first thing I do, coming in a strange country, is to analyse the soil. I found out that the Cape is lacking in phosphorus and lime. I have never seen so many false teeth in my life as in this country. You would think that this country, with all its marvellous sun, is the healthiest country; but not a bit. The people suffer a lot from rheumatism, arthritis, lumbago, sciatica, asthma and cancer. Even the power of the sun is not used rightly, and studying Cosmotherapie one gets a new understanding for all different radiations and vibrations. How can you be well, when the soil is lacking in phosphorus and lime? Two of the most important minerals, which the body and plants need. At the beginning of my work here I knew nothing about earth rays and underground streams. I belonged to no diviners' society at that time. I found out that all these different complaints were caused from these underground streams and mineral deposits. I refused to take patients before I had tested the bed and the whole house. Sometimes the houses were over emanations from water and mineral rays, and I had no healthy spot to shift

them to. I had to find an insulator which would insulate water and mineral rays as well. I tested many times that water rays are emanating straight up, whereas mineral is radiating like a sun to all sides and is more destructive than emanations from underground streams. I went to a builder's firm and tested so long the various sheets till I found the right thing, either Cellotax or Tritex. But then started difficulties with the builders. They would not deliver in small quantities, and I had to go to several managers and use all my womanly tricks to get it at last. They gave me a month's trial. To-day I can have whatever size I want, they do anything for me! The success was there. So I repeat, I refuse to treat a patient before I have tested the bed and house. I don't charge extra for that, as I want to educate them.

With it all came, of course, all the ridicule and laughter, especially from the doctors. I had to put up with a lot the first years. They called me all sorts of things: "The Quack with the stick," or "The Witch which should be burnt." I stood my ground, always thinking of Kipling's "If." Endless strength I got from it. The deeds began to speak and nothing else, and they got thinking. Now I try to be a friend to the doctors. I have the burning desire to seek the truth and serve humanity. I get sent patients here and there from doctors. I am working at present in a building surrounded by doctors. And we don't despise each other.

Slowly, I was called to find water on farms; till now always a success. I work a lot with Mr. Morton together. He is the most accurate water diviner, and I am very fortunate to have him here with me. We experiment quite a lot together. It is absolutely necessary in this country to convince the people of the truth of water divining. We do jobs sometimes together, going separately to the spot, and we agree every time and find the exact spot together. So we found any amount of water on the farm of the son-in-law of Lord Hothfield, from England, who had bored three times and no water. And we found every time mineral deposits. Here the dowsers cannot discriminate between water and mineral deposits. That is so often the trouble here, and then they complain of bad dowsers.

I want to mention also the late Mr. Fractas. We have lost a great scientist with him. I will never forget how I was invited to a party to hear Fractas lecture. When we were all in the room he announced that he would test me, in order to find out if I was not a fraud. My astonishment! but I was delighted, only had not the faintest idea what he would do with me, having never read or done anything of that kind. He made all sorts

of experiments with me, with my clothes, minerals, colours on food, germs (honey isolates 'flu), &c. Also photographs of persons alive or dead. Everything worked. Since then I saw a lot of him. Many persons imposed on this truly good man, and how great he really was the world will only realize much later. Morton and I test each other often with water divining. There should be at least two people working together.

A rather nice incident occurred in Germany, where I was last summer. I was invited to treat friends in a beautiful castle in the Lausitz. My brother warned me never to mention anything about earth rays, or even magnetism, as Mr. v. S. would throw me out of the house. So I followed his brotherly advice. The first evening we sat very happy together in the hall. Suddenly I get cold shivers over my back, I move here and there on my seat, my body begins to ache, I cannot sit still any longer. I jump up just ready to test my place, when I hear the voice of my brother ringing in my ears. I went out to "fetch" something. I returned and sat down somewhere else——the same story. I did not know what to do; then I decided to talk to my friends in walking across the room, telling them it was a habit of mine. My bed was half good, half bad; I tried to sleep on that healthy spot during the night.

The next morning I tested secretly all the rooms in the castle, and found out that nearly all rooms were over earth rays and the hall over crossing streams. I just use my hands, as I need the rod very little. I was desperate to stay under these conditions for quite a while with my friends. I went to the next village, looked up a builder's shop and actually found "Tritex." So I was satisfied that something could be done. I did that all on my own. Then the miracle happened. Mr. v. S. got kicked in the ribs by a young horse: broken rib, stomach bleeding, terrible pains. There this big man was lying in agony. The doctor gave some injection which did not hold on, and his poor wife was so upset. She could not bear it any longer, went to him and mentioned me. She urged and pleaded, but you know best how men swear! At last she won, as the pains got worse and worse. I went in and just put my hands on the painful spots for an hour, praying. Suddenly his face changes, he stares at me, mumbling: "But that is impossible, they cannot have gone, you are not Christ—but they have gone." With all skill and all our efforts we kept him five days in bed; the doctor he refused to see. I put my hands twice a day over the wounds. Pain he had none from the first treatment on, it had to heal. Well, the fifth day up he got and out. At lunch time he wanted to speak to me. He took me in his room, looking at me very

strangely: very humble those words tumbled out: "You had to come to us, only to convince me that there are more things between earth and heaven than we mortals know. I have been the greatest disbeliever in all such things, but a miracle has happened to me. You can imagine my pains, and men hate to be sick in bed, especially when the harbour is at hand. You come along quietly without any fuss and you take my pains away. I promise you to do what you suggest to insulate the house. I begin to grasp that it is a cause that we all are continually ill, ill-tempered. I will go round and tell everybody." And so he did. The neighbours came along, they fetched me to test all sorts of houses, stables, trees, and to treat them. It was one great joy, and I gave thanks to the Father. They seem all to understand it. And now they are so happy in their insulated castle and are well at last for years.

In England I did the same, looked up patients of mine, tested many houses, also "haunted" houses. Every time I found that such a house stood over crossing streams. In such formations the low elementals enjoy to live! Insulating the floors and rooms and a white cross soon chased these conditions and cleaned them out thoroughly.

When I stayed on different farms in Germany I put many beehives over water rays and they write now that the result is really astonishing.

So we try to serve. The more we suffer, the more we begin to understand. More wonderful inventions will come, the vibrations will get finer and finer, and for those who know the Laws of Nature, exist no miracles any more. Be still and you will know yourself, and you get more understanding, universal love, in order to serve humanity.

WATER AND MINERAL DIVINING EXPERIENCES IN SOUTH AFRICA

By A VETERAN DOWSER (J. J. MORTON)

Writing articles on any subject is a bit out of my line, but your President has asked me so often to contribute an article on my experiences with water divining in South Africa that I feel ashamed of myself for not having done so before.

I am making mention of matters which do not really come under the heading of water divining but may indirectly lead up to the subject; to those who know South Africa my comments may be of interest, and to those who do not they will perhaps be better able to follow my somewhat rambling article.

Our up-country towns (dorps as they are called) are mostly supplied with water from a large dam fed from catchment water from the mountains, and where there happens to be a surface spring, it can be opened up and the supply of water increased. As a rule when it rains it comes down in torrents. I remember in the year 1894 we had a heavy thunderstorm every afternoon for half-an-hour, commencing on the first of February and lasting until the 28th. The low places across the roads were impassable for a short time, and the sun was shining all the time. This water found its way into the dam at Middleburg, Cape Colony, which is 4,000 feet above sea level.

There are water and dry erven; the former have cement furrows about a foot square with grooves cut in; the occupier of the erven (garden land) below is allowed to turn the water in for an hour twice a week. The dry erven are useless for gardening unless a well is sunk, and the puzzle was to find a subterranean stream.

It is very strange that before knowing anything about the divining rod, 44 years ago, I hired a house and water erven in Middleburg, and across the road I bought two dry erven. Something seemed to tell me there was a spring of water there. I therefore sunk a well with convict labour, struck a lovely stream of water, and sold the erven at a good profit. People all round me tried to tap that stream, but none could; had there been one who knew he was a diviner it is possible he would have had no difficulty. I then bought two plots (erven) in the lower part of the town, and my instinct again showed me where to strike the spring. I then hired 1,500 morgen (3,000 acres) near the town, for dairying, poultry and Angora goats. I had a lease extending over five years with the option of purchase at

any time at £1 per morgen. There was not a tree nor fence, just karoo bush and bare veldt. The landlord agreed to build me a house and I could choose the position. I walked straight to a certain part and said "Here is a good spring; I will have my house near it." I had any amount of water, and I was doing well: then came the Jameson Raid and, later on, the Boer War. I was so fed up that I gave up the right of purchase and the military paid my landlord £10,000 for the farm, so I lost £7,500. Anyhow, I had some compensation, as I made friends with the Cape Government geologist, a Mr. Reimer. He could not make out how I found these good streams of underground water and I could not enlighten him.

Now we come to the divining rod. After the Boer War I was appointed manager of the Orange Free State Government Stud and Experimental Farm. His Grace the Duke of Westminster's estate adjoined the Government farm; his estate agent was Colonel, afterwards General, Byron; he was a dowser. After testing me he said, "I am surprised at the way the rod works with you; you are a super water diviner." Then and there I started water divining, with a willow rod, the only suitable wood in those parts at the time.

We started a large creamery on the farm for the benefit of settlers farming all round. The Government sent their geologist to find streams of water, as a large quantity was required, and who should it be but my old friend Reimer. He was delighted to meet me again, and also to see I could use the divining rod. We both located a good stream at the same place. Reimer was not a diviner and remarked: "We geologists know the strata, different formations, &c., where a likely stream is to be found, but you can with your rod point out the exact spot." This I did, and also gave the correct depth; as to the strength, I knew it was extra strong, as the rod flew out of my hands, I not being then prepared, as I am now, for such an emergency.

This was in January, 1905, and although a large oil engine was established, the borehole to this day has never been pumped dry.

I think I am right in stating that my water divining covers a period of 33 years, without adding on the 10 years previous to the advent of the rod.

Several years afterwards I was very fortunate in getting in touch with a Norfolk man (the late Mr. B. Tompkins), born near my old home; he knew my people (we had been farmers for generations). We constantly exchanged ideas, which was very helpful, especially so as he had had a trip to South Africa in 1896. Previous to the Boer War (1899 to 1902) it was looked on as a

great undertaking, but the thousands who landed during those 2½ years made a great difference. It is sad to relate the thousands who never returned, having died of enteric ; a very large number are buried in Bloemfontein. It is strange how one can call people friends whom one has never seen, but such was the case with Mr. Tompkins. I still have the two twigs he kindly sent me, a hazel and a whitethorn.

I am very heavily handicapped, having had a complete destruction of one ear, on my first trip to South Africa 45 years ago, and the other ear was damaged a few years back from the bite of a spider, so I cannot mix in company and can only talk to one person at the one time, and that only when we are facing one another. I suppose it is lip reading or waves like wireless, and that reminds me that, owing to my deafness, I have to spend most of my time experimenting with my divining rod. In my several articles to the S.A. Press during the last ten years or more I have stated " There is nothing more wonderful about water divining than about wireless telegraphy, the one being waves under the ground and the other above. I have noticed that Dowsers who have no faith in themselves remark : " Yes, I am a diviner, but I don't believe in it." I ask them : " Do you believe in wireless ? "

I am of opinion that if one is not too well blessed with scientific knowledge, like myself, and no one to discuss or compare notes with, it is far better to stick to the " crotched stick." I find that like a favourite old cricket bat, a gun, or even a push bike (my old Raleigh is 23 years old), one gets attached to them and they are real companions. I mostly use a quince, as it does not break off at the crotch. To find a stream, of course we all know we must cross it. By turning round, the twig will point to the exact course it is taking, and this is how one can tell the difference between a stream of water and a mineralised deposit, which is in a reef and shows no course. As I have often remarked, there have been thousands and thousands of pounds lost, and cattle and sheep died in thousands, during a drought through not being able to get a jumper drill so much time having been lost through boring over " dud " holes. To find where the stream rises, in this country mostly from the mountains, there is a tremendous pull on the rod, and it takes an experienced person. I feel I can almost talk to my rod and it responds ; we have a great struggle, and at last it beats me, and where that points even 10 miles away one can walk to the exact spot from whence it takes its course. Not necessary and often impossible to walk. I carried out this experiment a fortnight ago. My friend had a car, and I took the direction and then kept picking up the

wave. There is no difficulty in knowing it is the same stream, as unless it gives you both directions you know you are on another and must find the right one. This is very interesting work, but with the strain on the rod I took the skin all off my hand on the side where the pull directed, and had to give up divining for a week.

As to the effect it has on me, I suppose, like everyone else, it makes the muscles taut; no doubt the emanation goes up the feet and to the top of the spine, then down both arms to the end of the rod. An old friend of mine who had done, years back, a lot of work on the Rand, will have it only goes as far as the wrist. I said "How is it, then, that you can hide a diamond on the smallest radioactive particle in a small heap of sand, or under a carpet, and I will, even blindfolded, put the point of my rod on it?" I have done this time without number. It is a great mistake to keep on too long; farmers especially have no idea of the strain it has on one's muscles and nerves, and will say "Try here, and now here." I tell them a dowser is only a machine, which cannot be run too long without oiling, or the bearings will wear out, and a tired person cannot find water. I have a very drowsy feeling come over me, and when in South-West Africa I would crawl under a bush and have a lovely rest. I have never taken cocaine, but would think it has a similar effect. The day after a very hard one I feel absent-minded, in a semi-comatose state, as if walking in a trance. Then I can feel the electricity working out of my feet, and after it has all passed away I feel a bit morose. If I have two or three days in succession I will only do a little each day, as I don't believe anyone can do reliable work when fatigued. On sitting at the table testing minerals with various samples (thanks to the sketch of a sampler given in one of the B.S.D. Journals), both feet must be on the ground, and if kneeling, then both toes. On horseback both feet must be in the stirrup irons, &c.

While Manager of the Government Stud and Experimental Farm, a large party of the touring British Association visited me. Amongst them was Sir Ray Lankester. In his book, *The Diversions of a Naturalist*, written during the Great War, he rather ridicules water divining; but would he do so to-day?

In one part of his book he states that if a dowser could find the same place again blindfolded it should be proof enough of his genuineness. This seems the one proof that nearly all doubtful people ask for. In 1906 the Duke of Westminster, with a large house party, asked me to give a demonstration on his estate. After tracing one or two streams of subterranean water, I was blindfolded, turned round several times, and then put in the

direction of the stream some 20 yards away; when my rod pulled down over the exact spot they were surprised and asked me to prove myself again. This time I went up a small mountain full of iron stone and boulders and found it with my hands instead of the rod. One of the party thought he would be clever and asked me if it would pull down over a tumbler full of water. I said I was afraid not unless it had a good stiff whisky in it. One might say that no person ought to lay claim to being a genuine dowser unless he could carry out this test, but I remember in my very young days that even playing "Blind Man's Buff," the very fact of having a handkerchief tied round the eyes would quite upset some nervous lad. I was staying near Durban with friends who had a dairy farm some 200 feet above the level of the road and had to cart water with panniers on donkeys and later spent £200 on hiring a well of water and pumping it up the rise. It was usual to milk at midnight and deliver at 2 a.m. It was a lovely night, and I picked up the baby and was showing her the cows when my legs began to tremble. I found I was over a strong stream. I could hardly believe it to be true when the depth only showed 70 feet, and was delighted to find my hands showed no signs of rock.

Soon after I left for Rhodesia to manage a farm and received a letter to say at 69 feet they struck a strong stream of water as clear as crystal and cold as ice and it had put £500 on to the value of their farm.

On arriving in Rhodesia they had spent thousands in sinking wells 200 feet deep, mostly through granite and, more so, decomposed granite. The nearest water for animals was two miles away. We dipped our cattle on Sunday mornings, so the oxen were fit for work next day; afterwards I usually walked home, hot and tired. I would lie down on the floor (being cooler than a mattress), and if flies were about would crawl under the bed and soon fall sound asleep. On one occasion my wife called me for tea. I told her not to disturb me, as I was having a lovely sleep. After an hour I told her the same; the next time she had a great trouble in waking me and I could hardly stand. I discovered afterwards that I was sleeping with my neck over a strong stream and possibly was being gently, but surely, electrocuted.

I never get into a strange bed without testing it, as I must say I thoroughly agree with an account I read in the *Cape Times*, by a Dr. Hagen, Chairman of the Medical Board in Stettin, on cancer and other diseases caused or intensified by people continuously sleeping or sitting over subterranean streams, especially cross streams. The next day I sent an article stating that the

emanation from electro mineralised deposits had quite as much effect, from their emanations as subterranean streams, but it is strange one seldom sees it mentioned in the *B.S.D. Journal*. I find it so in some parts of South Africa, and especially in South-West Africa, but I have never found one to be more than three feet deep. I saw one borehole which a diviner thought was water, sunk to a depth of 600 feet with a shot drill, costing £1 a foot to drill, and if the diviner had put his rod over the hole after drilling four feet he would have felt no attraction on his rod. As I stated before, thousands upon thousands of pounds annually are lost through diviners not knowing the difference. I put my twig over this 600-feet hole and found no attraction, but on either side there was a strong emanation. Just for a test I traced this reef for three miles. I find these reefs, like subterranean streams, do not necessarily take a straight course from what I can see up to the present, but I am still making experiments. The mineral deposits are about two feet apart, like links in a chain.

The excellent article in your Journal for September last, "Cancer in the Light of Geophysical Radiation," has given me food for thought, and I have since proved that any amount of fruit trees, as well as others, are killed by these underground currents, but there are so many more of these mineral deposits in some parts than streams of water, and the great benefit is that they can be so easily taken out, as the deposits seem to run in a chain about two feet apart. I have also dug out the small deposit on either side of the tree, and if done in time the tree has recovered. This one could not do where the tree is over a stream of water.

Although I have only mentioned working with the crotched stick, I use my hands where there is a rocky formation, and, although the rod will work where there is a spring of water under it, my hands clasped together will not do so. I think this might be called a double gift, and is a most important factor and saves a lot of unnecessary expense when boring for water. I was asked to find water on a farm just above me in the Orange Free State. The owner's brother, a Government engineer and a geologist, accompanied me. The two men with the machine were both water diviners. We all agreed on the same stream running the whole length of the farm and just where water was required for building the homestead. The charge for drilling was 15s. per foot. The first hole was drilled to a depth of 140 feet, when ironstone was struck; the next the same. I felt disheartened and inclined to give it up; the others started another hole. By sheer luck I met an old Dutch farmer, who said that

his wife was the only person whose hands would show where there was rock too hard for a jumper drill to penetrate. I tried a few places on my farm, and found my hands would not work over iron stone. The old gentleman remarked: "There is a fortune for you." (I am still looking for that fortune). It has proved a great benefit to myself and my clients. I went up to the farm, and they were then on their fourth hole and had altogether drilled over 300 feet at a dead loss of £250. Without letting the drillmen see what I was doing I found several streams with my rod and tested all separately with my hands; all showed ironstone or rock. At last, to my delight, down came my hands. I said nothing to the others but "Just drill over this peg and you will not strike anything too hard for the jumper drill to penetrate." Such was the case, and at 120 feet they struck an excellent supply of water. My son has recently made a special visit to this farm (February, 1938) and tells me there is a plentiful supply of beautiful spring water in the well; his companion was astonished to find a well of water on such high ground under a kopje. I have had wonderful success with my hands on the farm in Rhodesia previously referred to.

I was lying one scorching hot afternoon near the homestead, in the kopjes under a tree with my lion dogs with me, and felt a peculiar sensation come over me. I found I was over a spring of water. I thought, "Impossible to strike water here on account of the dolerite." Strangely enough, a very pretty little mocking bird was up in the tree and fell on my shoulder. I found the feet were fastened together (evidently copying me with my crossed hands). Could the emanations have affected it? No doubt electricity does affect animals and birds, as well as plants. I made a ring four feet in diameter, and carefully tested it with rod and hands, and found I could sink down two-thirds without encountering anything hard, mostly small boulders and decomposed granite, but one-third was solid rock. It showed the depth to be 30 feet. I started next day on my experiments with two Matabele boys. At ten feet we struck a hard ledge, but went on, and at 32 feet a most lovely stream of water came rushing in. It was the wonder and surprise of farmers all round who came to see six pedigree bulls drinking from a trough, which had previously had water carried two miles in the sun to drink. I sank another well for a friend, and after I had left Rhodesia two or three years he wrote me: "Do come back: we have had two years' drought and mine is the only well with water in it." I was then manager for Sir Thomas Cullinan (of Cullinan diamond fame). I was finding water for Sir Thomas one day. He remarked: "What a pity you cannot find diamonds." I had up

to then only studied water. I loved Rhodesia, but consider it is not the country for an old man to go and settle in ; my son is still there on a ranch.

A party wanted to start a Country Club on a good-sized piece of land and had the option of purchase. I tried all over for water, but wherever a stream there was rock. Before engaging me they went down 150 feet with a diamond drill and lost the crown, worth £80. It cost them altogether £200 by not engaging me in the first instance, especially as in those days I made no charge. Anyhow, they gave up the option to purchase, so no doubt the first loss proved the best. From Sir Thomas I went to Sir Lionel Phillips for three years on that lovely old historic farm "Vergelegen," near Somerset West, and about 30 miles from Cape Town. There they have a very good supply of water from the mountains, led in pipes all over the farm, and the pressure is so great that they could flood the homestead with hydrants if necessary. It is all supplied by natural gravitation. On the one side of the farm is a mountain called "Scarpenberg," and Sir Lionel wanted to go in for sheep, so required water. We found the only stream on the slope of the mountain, and at the foot was the only suitable place for a borehole. The owner of the drilling machine said it would be impossible to reach the spring without striking rock. Sir Lionel was paying £1 per foot for the drilling, and told the drillman that he was relying on my hands showing where we could drill without doing so. We got on to granite, but not too hard to drill. I estimated the depth at 85 feet, and at that depth we struck a good spring. Lady Phillips wrote me only a few weeks ago to say it was owing to my being able to point out the exact spot that we just missed a formation too hard for a jumper drill to penetrate. All down the slope of the mountain were pine trees of about four years' growth. I could not make out how it was that all those over the stream should be sickly or dead. It is now 12 years ago, but it is only after reading your September Journal that I feel sure I now know the reason, for on page 8 it states : "In the garden the trees over the subterranean water courses are either dead or sickly."

After leaving Sir Lionel, I retired from farm life and turned a professional dowser, and for the last ten years have concentrated my mind and whole time on research work, not only with water but anything that comes along.

I had occasion a year or two ago to try and find some lost diamonds, but had to get permission from the Chief Police Officer in Cape Town, to prove I could trace them (and would not pinch any q.q.). He hid three diamonds in another room and I had

no difficulty in finding them all. I had no divining rod with me, so used my hands instead. Another diamond was hid in a small tin box under a typewriter; with this I placed my forefinger over the diamond in the tin.

Some people have an idea that when putting down a borehole you stop all water in the stream from taking its course. I would rather put down two or even three boreholes over a very strong stream than one over a medium one. There is always a certain amount of water passing the casing in a borehole, even while pumping. As soon as the pumping stops, the full flow of the stream passes on to the next borehole.

Recently I found a spring for a large live-stock sale yard at 120 feet (exact depth estimated). I said they should get 40,000 gallons in the 24 hours. One windmill was put over the borehole and filled a 60,000-gallon round reservoir in the 24 hours, with a drinking trough all round for sheep and drinking tanks in all the camps for cattle.

A retired Government official, like myself, but who knows every mountain and kopje, having hiked over most of them, is greatly interested in my work. He kindly takes me in his car, and as I can only run to a push-bike or Shanks's pony, I am greatly indebted to him. We are on the Klipfontein Road. All the streams crossing the road pass under the Municipal Farm, where it is likely water may be wanted to supply drinking water for a lot of houses they may build under a big housing scheme; unfortunately all the streams are supposed to be brackish, and this I found to be the case. At last, with my sample on the divining rod, I struck a fresh-water stream. I turned to my friend, and at the same time turned round with my rod and said, "What is that mountain?" He said, "Heldeberg." I said, "There is the head of this stream; how far away?" "About ten miles." Then I turned round to some white marks on the side of another mountain and said, "That is where the stream goes to; what is that?" He stated, "The old Lakeside Quarry near Muizenberg." "How far?" "About eight miles." "Which direction?" "Most likely near Zee Koe Vlei" (where they have a fine yachting Club). He drives me along, and at different points I keep picking up the wave and eventually it takes me to the (my) quarry.

OIL IN WALES?

By Captain F. L. M. BOOTHBY, C.B.E., F.R.Ae.S.

Those who read my article, "Oil in Southern England," in last December's number of the Journal, may remember that the two dowsers concerned were agreed that on the sites selected by the oil companies to drill they had never been deep enough to reach their objective. Since then the Kingsclere bore has been abandoned, but fortunately came across iron stone at 3,600 feet. This affects the red rod strongly, and comes through at six beats, giving us a datum line, and making each beat represent 600 feet in this formation, and not 500 as I had previously suggested. This puts the oil on the well sites down in the Palaeozoic rocks. It would seem that the geologists employed by the oil companies do not agree with this possibility. My view is that dowsers and geologists *should* be able to agree, and that their findings are of little value unless they do. A re-survey of much of the ground previously covered showed no reason for a modification of the dowsers' estimate, and matters appeared to rest in that highly unsatisfactory position.

Recently a new prophet has arisen in the geological world, Mr. John Roberts, D.I.C., who gave a lecture on his theory of the formation of oil at the Royal Society of Arts recently, and a summary of this may be found in the *Petroleum Times* of March 19th. Briefly, his theory is that oil has been distilled from oil-bearing rocks by the heat caused by vast earth movements; that the oil in the South of England is due to the rise of the Alps, and therefore it would be in the Palaeozoic rocks. The patches of shallow oil found in the south of England can also be accounted for by this theory, as they are all in regions where heavy faulting has occurred, which must have generated enough heat to distil the oils in the shales we know exist in the Kimmeridge and elsewhere. This geologist and the dowser are therefore in agreement. Needless to say, this new theory of oil generation is not being accepted by all oil geologists, and Mr. Roberts has been heavily attacked, but has held his own well.

The Alps are a long way from England, and the disturbing effect of their uplift was comparatively small to that caused in other oil-producing countries. There were other vast disturbances before the Alpine one; the Caledonian uplift has affected the older rocks, the Ordovician and Silurian, which appear in Wales, and, according to Mr. Roberts's theory, oil might well be found there. The geological map of this region shows these rocks running in a northerly direction from Carmarthen,

so I went to that town and tried the dowsing rod in the district. The results show that near Carmarthen itself oil should be found at 2,400 feet (still assuming that one beat means 600 feet, though the conditions are different, and it may not), and the shallowest result obtained was 1,800 feet. From bearings taken, it is believed a spot could be found where oil is nearer the surface, but it meant a cross-country journey on foot, which time did not permit. There is no mix up of oils and serial numbers as in the South of England, the serial number 23, for crude oil, being the same throughout. Water and sulphur reactions came through one beat after the oil, and, sometimes, well below the oil, the reaction for iron.

On the return journey strong reactions from 1,800 feet, serial number 11, were encountered. The previous experiences of this number were obtained from cassiterite and zinc blende. Expecting coal—I had tested some and obtained serial number one —I was puzzled. However, about a mile further on the substance came to the surface, and was coal without a doubt. My error had been in testing over Cannel coal to get the serial number, and not Welsh, which shows how careful we have to be.

THE RADIO-PHYSICAL THEORY OF THE DIVINING ROD

(Summary of a lecture delivered in the German Mission at Prague By HERR INGENIEUR VOLKER FRITSCH)

It has been shown by numerous experiments that places where reactions of the rod occur frequently coincide with geological discontinuity in the subsoil. This fact has led to the formation of a radio-biological theory wherein it is assumed that the dowser's organism creates a high-frequency Hertzian field which, being varied by the electrical qualities of the subsoil, affects certain organs in the dowser's body.

That Hertzian fields affect every type of organism, including the human, has been amply proved, a partial explanation lying in their thermic and athermic effects; but a complete explanation which will account for certain indisputable phenomena is far more complicated.

During the course of investigations, many observations of interest were noted. For instance, that the well-developed sense of orientation of carrier pigeons is quite upset in the neighbourhood of transmission stations; that there is a definite connection between the radio-geological qualities of the subsoil and the occurrence of many illnesses; and also that considerable assistance in the diagnosis of disease can be obtained from the varying resistance of many tissues and organs and of the blood to high-frequency currents.

The problems presented by these facts are so important, not only on purely scientific grounds, but from the medical and economic points of view, that their thorough investigation is much to be desired. Between radio-physics and biology there has arisen a border-line science, radio-biology, the technique of which is still in an elementary stage, dealing with the influence of Hertzian fields on life processes and *vice versa*.

The theory that man under certain conditions emits Hertzian fields of appreciable extent is not entirely new. It was Lakhovsky who first referred all life processes to the effect of such radiation, and though his theory may be unacceptable to the exact physicist and doubtless contains much that is fantastic, it nevertheless embodies so much that is plausible that it cannot be passed by without careful consideration.

It would naturally be of the greatest value if the existence of such high-frequency fields could be established.

There are two lines of approach—the demonstration of fields outside the human organism through a very sensitive receiver,

and of the existence of high-frequency alternating currents, capable of producing Hertzian fields.

It is possible that the human body contains a series of "interrelated high-frequency currents," but that through mutual superposition, due to phase displacement, mutual compensation results, rendering a proof impossible.

For other reasons, a direct proof would be exceedingly difficult to obtain. Practically nothing is known of the wave length and intensity of biological radiation. When we consider that it is perhaps only a few centimetres or millimetres, it is obvious that direct proof would be exceedingly difficult. An indirect proof would appear to be more feasible.

In the organism there are biological currents such as those in the nerves, brain and muscles, well known to the physiologist. Doctors know that the type of these currents is changed by illness. The shape of the current curve is of interest to the electro-technician, for from it he can tell whether it represents a single current or superimposed currents. In already known biological currents a periodicity is clearly observable, but the shape of the current curve is by no means sinusoidal. Hence it has been assumed that the current under observation is not single but composed of several currents of higher frequency superimposed.

Theoretically, therefore, it is possible that high-frequency currents do flow in the human organism, and it is now the task of physiological research to isolate them.

This is very difficult. To begin with, single conductors are very fine threads. When a nerve is probed it is not a single conductor that is pierced, but a whole bundle. Again, co-existent influence from mutual induction cannot be ruled out. Here, too, indirect proof must be sought. Change in the shape of the curve where there is superposition of artificially created frequencies must be examined.

All these investigations are of significance in Medicine. As already observed, a change in the curve is observable with certain diseases. If the disease is the result of the change of current, improvement can be effected by its artificial neutralisation. Medicine would then in the first place apply physical methods, whereas chemical remedies are now preferred.

Dowsing investigations demand that all experiments should be carried out on settled lines, and should be of a kind that can be repeated, and, above all, that quantitative results should be recorded. Particular attention should be directed towards the electrical properties of the subsoil, especially towards those factors which from the radio-physical point of view can produce disturbance.

DOWSING ON PLANS

By Lt.-Colonel A. B. CUNNINGHAM, C.B.E., D.S.O.

Not having seen any literature concerning dowsing on plans, the method described below has been evolved gradually, and though for many reasons not sufficiently tested out may be of interest and provide some ideas on which others can improve.

The experiments must be regarded mainly as *tentative*, as it is difficult to get confirmation or opinions from owners of properties, and some details such as "top of reef" can seldom be verified.

A plan to scale showing boundaries and the North point is the great essential. If the plan has further details such as roads, tracks, paths, streams, bridges, huts, &c., marked on it this is an advantage in case opportunities arise for checking the results on the actual property.

The experiments were limited principally to quartz and gold, but there seems no reason why the method could not be extended to other minerals.

The second essential is to obtain samples of quartz from the property, a lump of quartz half the size of a cigarette tin should be a sufficient quantity for each sample.

Having obtained the plan and the quartz samples, the plotting can be carried out at a distance from the property. My attempts were carried out more than one hundred miles from the area.

The plan is correctly oriented, and this should be done more correctly than was thought necessary or perhaps done in some cases. In any future experiments I would try setting the plan for True North rather than Magnetic North, as I have some grounds for suspecting that this might be an improvement. The operator sits on the southern side of the plan and faces north.

The first quartz sample is broken up into several pieces, and three pieces (each about the size of half a walnut) are selected. One piece is used as the weight of the pendulum and the thread adjusted for length until this weight gyrates either clockwise on its own or anti-clockwise over one of the other pieces of quartz. The pendulum stick is held between the other two pieces of quartz; an elastic band around them is an assistance in keeping the two pieces of quartz and the pendulum stick in contact.

Care must be taken in the setting of the pendulum, and watch out for frequently re-setting it.

The plan is searched with the pendulum until gyration occurs; this may indicate a starting area and can be marked on the plan with a circle by means of a bit of coloured chalk.

A piece of stiff and straight copper wire, about five inches long, can be now taken as a searching rod.

Copper wire was used, but later and other experiments rather suggest that a piece of wrought iron wire might be more effective.

The searching rod is held vertically between the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, and the marked area is searched in detail until a point is found to produce gyration on the pendulum, which is in the right hand, clear of the plan and south of the rod. The point so obtained is marked with a pencil. A search around this point may give a second and a third point; these points when joined up by a coloured pencil line commence to show the run of the formation. Gaps will occur in this line of formation due to intrusions; a large fault will necessitate a new search to try and find the extension. When obtained work backwards and forwards from this new point.

If the formation line on the plan gives consistent readings on re-testing several times at intervals of a day it is reasonable to assume that the plan is as correct as the method permits. These re-tests help to eliminate distortions which may occur unknown to the operator due to bad weather and other interference.

This quartz method was applied to a plan on one scale which only showed claim lines and boundaries with moderate accuracy, and also to a geophysical plan on another scale. The dowsed lines on these two plans where they overlapped were sufficiently similar as regards location, direction, &c., to convey a useful idea of what the land probably contained.

The dowsed line in many places did not agree with the points joined up on the geophysical plan. I understand that a geophysicist joins up points of resistance but is unable to say if these points are on the same formation. If this is correct, then where formations have been broken and been shifted, discrepancies between the dowsed line and the geophysical line may be expected.

The dowsed plans also agreed with certain known outcrops and some of the provisional lines marked on a plan obtained by surface dowsing, as described in the article on "Minerals" (*B.S.D.J.*, III, 18, p. 73), and, where disagreement with some provisional surface lines occurred, seemed to help explain why the reef was missed and where it would be worth while re-testing the land.

Of three quartz reefs "A," "B" and "C" dowsed on a plan I was informed that "A" and "C" corresponded roughly with what had been found below, but that "B" had not been found again after the first contact. Having only a small piece of

" B," the plot had been done with this one piece instead of the three pieces as had been advocated.

It is possible to get results if tracing paper is placed above the original plan, and this arrangement saves making, perhaps, rather a mess on the real plan. The results obtained on the tracing provide a useful check on results obtained later on the plan. Should a portion disagree then both tracing and plan can be re-tested at this part until agreement is obtained. The tracing remains as a record should the plan be sent away.

One of the merits that seems to occur with plan work is that only the main features are revealed; large detached floats produce no reactions; in surface work such floats may have produced reactions and have been misleading.

Having, as I imagine, plotted the run of a reef by the above method, experiments were tried to see if more information could be obtained.

As described under " Searching " (*B.S.D.J.*, III, 18, p. 77), the side to which the formation dips can be obtained.

Angle of Dip

A board was made to stand vertically, and a card, fixed to it, was marked in degrees (0° horizontal and 90° vertical).

The 0° line corresponds with the bottom edge of the board.

The board was placed at right angles to the reef on the plan and on the opposite side to the dip, with the vertical line over the reef. The short rod was placed vertically on the reef and was gradually tilted away from the vertical until gyration was seen on the pendulum, which is in the right hand. The rod is moved by the left hand. The angle of inclination is then read off the degree scale. This appears to give the angle of dip.

Zones

These were never constant, and varied from hour to hour or less, so any idea of making scales had to be abandoned.

First zone, " Depth." The only method that suggested itself was by " counting "; but the " top of the reef " is seldom known and verification can rarely be obtained. As " Depth " and I are not on friendly terms I am uncertain regarding the value of this attempt.

The short rod is moved from the reef in a direction at right angles to the run of the reef until gyration again takes place. This point I call the " First " or " Depth " pole, a pole being the boundary point between one zone and another and for which point, I am told, there is no recognized term. The pendulum was then made to oscillate, and counting commenced.

If shallow depth was suspected the counting was 1, 2, 3, 4, &c.,

and if deep 10, 20, 30, 40, &c., until gyration again was shown. The answer was assumed to be in feet.

For depths of less than 100 feet another method was also tried as a check on the "counting" method. A measuring tape was hung up as high as possible with zero at the top. The gyrating pendulum was carried from the first pole to near the tape and made to oscillate while the forefinger of the left hand (or if necessary a rod) started at the zero on the tape and descended along the tape until gyration again took place. One foot of "counting" corresponded with one inch on the tape; one depth gave fifty-eight "counted" feet and fifty-eight inches on the tape.

The various depths obtained were not improbable for the reef under test.

Second zone, "Quantity." It was thought that one factor in "quantity" should be width. A flat ruler marked in feet and inches was laid on an East-West line and between the reef on plan and the North. The short rod, starting from the same point on the reef on plan, was moved beyond the "depth" pole until gyration on the pendulum indicated the position of the "Second" or "Quantity" pole. The forefinger of the left hand (short rod discarded) was then placed on the zero of the graduated ruler (pendulum now oscillating) and moved along the ruler until gyration became visible. From zero to this point on the ruler appears to give the width of the quartz reef at the starting point, and as far as can be judged this width might be correct.

Gold may be not only in the quartz reef but also in the reef contacts. A pendulum set for gold instead of for the particular quartz formation can be used to find the width of the gold-bearing area, and the width will be naturally greater than the quartz width should either contact carry gold.

Third zone, "Quality." It was thought that the degree of richness or assay value might be obtained from this zone. For the flat ruler, mentioned under "quantity," was substituted a row of the standard assay bottles previously mentioned under "Balance" testing (*B.S.D.J.*, III, 18, p. 78), the lowest value being on the left or the West end. Procedure is as before until the "Third" or "Quality" pole is reached. The forefinger of the left hand moves from the left-hand bottle eastwards along the row of bottles until gyration occurs when in contact with one particular bottle. It is difficult to know or to ascertain what the value really represents; some reader may be able to furnish information on the point. Meanwhile the value as obtained from the particular bottle is assumed to represent the average assay value across the gold section at the starting point on the reef.

However, it may occur that no reading is obtained. In this case it is necessary to make use of two fingers, the middle finger being on the lower value assay bottle and the forefinger on the next higher value bottle. Any reading obtained by means of this split arrangement may be taken to indicate a value about the mean of the two values.

Results obtained in this manner are almost impossible to verify, as the "top of the reef" is seldom seen and the actual point under test would be difficult to determine either from the ground to the plan or plan to the ground.

Nevertheless, these values may help to build up the general picture.

In one case, the values obtained were higher than those actually obtained by assay at some depth (100 feet and over), but "top of the reef" values were of a higher assay average on this particular formation.

Quadrant Chart (0°—90°)

The quadrant chart (0°—90°), correctly oriented, can be employed over a dowsed plan. With a wire pointer placed through the centre of the circle and on to the quartz reef on the plan, readings will be obtained for quartz and for gold as if they were actually present at the centre of the circle.

This seems to provide a means of checking the accuracy of the formation line traced on the plan and also a means of confirming other minerals that may be suspected.

An unconfirmed incident may be of some interest. Platinum was found in some alluvial working, but from where it came was not known.

Testing various quartz from the neighbourhood I got platinum indications on a North-South formation, which should continue on into the river, both on the ground and from "home" tests on quartz samples. I was told I was wrong, as no platinum had been revealed in the assay and that no case of platinum being found in that type of geological formation was known.

Later on, when making my attempts at plotting on plans, I thought I might see if the "lost" platinum could be found. The plotting showed a platinum line just eastwards, parallel and close to the original North-South formation. Employing the quadrant chart a platinum reading was obtained from this line on the plan. And there the matter rests until, perhaps, deep underground excavations may solve the problem!

Is it possible for platinum to "charge" the North-South formation so heavily and so retentively as to have caused my original "false" readings?

Anyone who attempts this problem of plotting on plans will be amazed (apart from a very complete scale of emotions) that, because a few boundary lines are put on a piece of paper, which is correctly oriented, apparently a reproduction of nature on a miniature scale results and the paper can be treated as if it were the real ground without the fatigue, heat, rain, ill-health, &c., which the real thing may entail. Is it any wonder that those who have no acquaintance with dowsing are sceptical, rude and more so ?

Personally, I see no reason why some such method as has been described should not be applicable to minerals in general, provided you have the necessary samples.

It is comforting to read on page 36, *B.S.D.J.*, III, 17, 1937, as regards " Petroleum " :—

" (1) All determinations at a distance, from maps and plans, are purely fantastic, and therefore useless : successful examples which are obtained in this way can always be traced back to thought transference."

Surely a somewhat sweeping assertion in a world where the " impossible " of to-day is often the commonplace of to-morrow ! In any case, there is no harm in trying to solve the problem, difficult or " impossible " as it may be, and the more people that make the attempt the quicker the correct method may be found.

My personal experience is that I cannot make a pendulum gyrate by any mental effort if it wants to oscillate. Having received a gyrating signal the mental attitude then taken up might be described as one of opposition. In spite of this, numerous signals are accepted as apparently correct which have turned out to be incorrect. I attribute this not to any form of mental reaction but more likely to some unrevealed error in procedure.

DOWSING FOR THE SAKE OF HEALTH

By Dr. ADOLPH SELIGE

I have long been a student of what you know as "dowsing," although my own dowsing efforts have not been in the direction of water finding, the discovery of mineral deposits, or of buried treasures like yours, my British fellow dowsers. No, I am interested in a different branch of the art, a very important branch indeed.

You have been seeking for water and minerals in the soil. I search for them in the confines of the human body. Here I find water, I find mineral elements and metals and many chemical combinations of them. That to me is a most interesting sport, and at the same time affords me a livelihood.

Locating sources of water for human consumption is a very useful branch of dowsing. Locating metals and minerals, crude oil and the like for industrial purposes is another useful branch, but I believe neither is really as important to the human race, to human welfare, as to be able to do really constructive dowsing for the purpose of preserving the health of the people and helping to restore the health of those who are sick and ailing.

My first introduction to the possibility of using dowsing in the interest of health was twelve years ago, during a visit to my native country, Germany. Here I witnessed a strange spectacle, the act of making a physical diagnosis by means of a divining rod. It was a fascinating sight and made a deep impression on me.

Now, I do not use the rod, but its cousin, the pendulum. The technique is different, but dowsing is dowsing whether you use the one instrument or the other. I find the pendulum better suited for my work, most of which is laboratory or desk work.

Many hundreds of physicians in various European countries have discovered that a diagnosis by means of the pendulum is accurate and reliable when properly made. There are but few of the British physicians who have fallen in line so far. This is certainly to be regretted. Or are they backward about confessing publicly that they use the pendulum for diagnostic purposes?

Heretofore those who do pendel diagnosis in our U.S. were also few and far between. But there are a number of progressive physicians who use methods which are along related lines. I refer to Electronics and Aetheronics.

However, events have taken a new turn but recently, for after one of the physicians whom I have been training in the art had an opportunity to give a demonstration before a group of physicians gathered at a convention, they became so enthusiastic about the unexpected and marvellous results, they formed a section for

Radioscopic diagnosis with my friend and pupil as chairman. Applications for instruction are coming in daily now. A small group of us have formed a society for the study and practice of the Radioscope which is the name under which the pendel is known here. This is the "League for Radioscopic Research and Practice."

Of course, a real medical diagnosis is out of the question for the laymen among the dowsers, but this is not the only way in which dowsing can be used in the interest of the dowser's health. He can really do a great deal for himself as far as his health is concerned even without being a doctor.

A great many of our ills are due to errors in eating, and mostly because we do not know how to select foods that are good for us and how to avoid the bad ones. Everybody should be able to do this for himself, and especially is this true of every dowser, for he possesses that marvellous faculty of "radiation perception," without which there would be no dowsing.

Foods may be harmonious as far as their effect upon your health is concerned, or they may be absolutely inharmonious and therefore harmful. These characteristics of foods can easily be determined by the dowser.

Have you not heard of dowsers who are able to determine the character of water in the ground before they have even seen or tasted it? Many can do this. They can also learn whether a food is wholesome with the same ease.

It is all a matter of "tuning in" properly, and tuning in, after all, is a matter of framing a question or mental concept and holding this to the exclusion of any other. The rod brings the correct answer. So does the pendulum.

The answer? Where does it come from? Let us not discuss that now except to say, this source of information will answer questions regarding your health as easily, if not even more readily than it does regarding water, metals and other things.

Furthermore, if your mysterious faculty enables you to receive answers to your questions on one subject, it will also enable you to receive answers to questions on other subjects.

There is a good and sound reason for this assertion. You go over a territory for the purpose of finding water or minerals with your mind centred on that very thing. You are virtually "asking" whether there is water or whatever you are seeking, and you receive an answer to this question in the form of a vigorous reaction of the rod, or of the pendulum if you should use that.

If you are proficient in dowsing, if you use the right technique and if there are no atmospheric or other interferences, you will always get the right answer to your questions.

Now try to apply your faculty in the interest of your health. Take one certain article of food you are concerned about, hold the food in your left hand, the pendulum in your right hand above the food, and ask, "Is there any water in this food?"

Now there are few foods that do not contain a certain amount of water. Fresh leaves and fruits contain a great deal of it. Is there any reason why you should not receive an affirmation above a head of cabbage, an apple, an orange, an onion, or any other food you may have at your disposal? Yes, there is water contained in your food and most any dowser can get the proper reaction for water.

Now try for metals, for the so-called mineral elements. They are also a constituent of every food. We hear about the sixteen elements. They are nitrogen (proteins), carbon (carbohydrates or starches and sugars, and fats), oxygen and hydrogen. These are the best known, but there are twelve others that are as important. They are sodium, potassium, magnesium, calcium, iron, manganese, silicon, iodine, chlorine, sulphur, phosphorus and fluorine.

There you have your minerals, your metals contained in the foods you eat, and there are many more of them. Their number grows as the scientist discovers new ones by a laborious laboratory process.

Authorities tell us that all the ninety-two known elements are contained in our bodies, and probably most of them are found in the common foods we eat. Indeed, they must be contained in the foods we eat, otherwise how would we supply the body with them? An expert with the pendulum can detect them quickly and with remarkable accuracy.

Begin by testing your foods for the sixteen elements mentioned above, those that are the best known ones. They are really essential to our health. Our body chemistry becomes abnormal if they are lacking. We suffer from deficiency diseases and may die of a mineral starvation in the midst of plenty.

After you have discovered these sixteen elements in the foods tested, you may proceed to locate a few others. I mention them because they are familiar names. They are aluminium, arsenic, borum, bromine, cobalt, copper, gold, lead, lithium, mercury, palladium, platinum, radium, silver, tin, uranium and zinc.

You will find all of these in certain foods, even though there are only minute traces of them. They are there just the same. Here I must correct myself. No, they are not all there after foods have been demineralized and otherwise robbed of their natural constituents. They are found, though, in all foods in their natural state.

The body depends for its supply of nutrition on the foods eaten. Certain foods are rich in certain elements like protein. Others are rich in starches, or sugars, or fats, or water, and it is the same with all the other elements. Hardly any food in its natural state that does not contain a little of all of them, if only a trace. These elements are necessary, that is true, but it makes quite a difference in what chemical combinations they are, for even the best of them becomes a poison instead of a food when in certain chemical combination.

Foods are good, bad or indifferent. As a rule, we endeavour to select our foods from amongst the harmless ones. Foods, after we have eaten them, must be digested, and they undergo a process of metabolism, during which they are so changed and prepared that the tiny cells of the body can utilize them when the bloodstream carries them along on its journey all through the body.

This process, if normal, will take care of the part of the food that can be used by the cells, but there is a great deal of material that has to be disposed of otherwise. It is the waste that is left behind.

Most of this waste material, left over after digestion and metabolism, is carried off through the organs of elimination, but not all of it. Fat is stored for reserve purposes. Some of this waste is used in the body chemistry for diverse purposes, but eventually eliminated through the regular channels.

But what happens when these channels get clogged up or break down and refuse to function? Well, we get sick, that is what happens. And there are very few people whose organs of elimination are not burdened with excessive amounts of waste material, who have not great accumulations of such waste in their bodies which seriously interfere with the normal functions of various organs, glands, tissues, vessels and what not.

They may not be sick enough to go to bed, but they are probably close to it, while others are in all stages of disease, perhaps ready for an operation or crippled for life in some fashion or other. They are more dead than alive.

This is not a pretty picture, and rather out of place in a dowsers' magazine, but it calls for the services of you dowsers. You can and should serve and do much for yourselves and your families by means of your dowsing faculty.

Here is how to go about it. You should begin by testing for the mineral elements in foods. Get acquainted with your foods by checking them over. Then take a food, lay it on the table before you to one side, place your left hand beside it. Leave about five inches of space between your hand and the food. Then take your pendulum in your right hand and let it hang

midway between hand and food. You are now ready for the business of "food dowsing."

Let us say you are commencing with an apple. Now fix in your mind the idea that your body requires foods that are wholesome and harmonious. With this concept in your mind you ask the question, "Is this apple a wholesome food, harmonious with my body?"

It will not be long, and the answer will be forthcoming. Now the answer which you expect can only be in the form of "motion"—circles, straight lines, ellipses, &c. You should expect only one of two answers to any question, either "Yes" or "No." Now instead of taking chances as to the form in which the answer might come, you take the initiative and determine this yourself.

I find the simplest code that can be arranged is to expect a circle to the left, that is, in the direction opposite to the clock as an affirmative. The best sign for the negative answer is a straight up and down line between your hand and the food. This we call the line of separation. It tries to separate you from undesirable food.

You need still another sign, that is, in case there is a food which is not exactly harmful but by no means desirable. In this case, expect the pendulum to come to a stop. No motion at all.

The larger the circles and the more vigorous the movements the better the food for you; the higher the quality the more benefit you will derive from it. A small circle and weak movement shows a less degree of quality and less harmony. A strong forward and backward swinging motion in a straight line should be a warning that the food is bad for you. It indicates a high degree of inharmoniousness.

These signs are reliable guides to food selection. If you prefer to use your rod, you will have to invent your own technique, for I am not familiar with the use of the rod.

I hope that many of the readers of this article will follow my advice and at least give it a trial for the sake of their health and that of their families and friends.

Is it not true that dowsers, as a rule, work according to precedent? They should not branch out into other fields than legitimate dowsing without having the proper foundation of instruction by one who is an authority on the subject and unless they have the proper qualifications required for special branches of the work.

But I am of the opinion that there are many who should seek a greater field for their endeavours. They should not "bury their talents" or "hide them under a bushel." This dowsing for the sake of your health is a branch of the art which I invite every dowser to go into with heart and soul.

DOWSING AND ITS BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL ASPECT

Many members of the British Society of Dowsers and their friends were the privileged listeners at a lecture given by Herr Hans Dannert, of Hagen, Westphalia, Germany, at No. 12 Park Crescent, W.1, on Tuesday, the 8th of February, 1938.

Dr. Hector Munro, under whose auspices the lecture was arranged, introduced Herr Dannert, and Mr. J. L. S. Renny kindly acted as interpreter.

Herr Dannert prefaced his remarks by stating that his credentials were 30 years of dowsing, during which period he had acted as the Official Dowser to the Crown Prince's Army on the Western Front and also as Official Dowser to the German Army on the East European Front during the Great War, as Dowser in Morocco for the Spanish Authorities, in German South-West Africa before and after the Great War, in Switzerland and in Germany and other European countries. He emphasised that success in dowsing depended upon experience and continual practice.

Geology had received most attention in early years of dowsing, but during the past few years an important development of dowsing was its biological and physiological aspect, and in his lecture he proposed to deal only with this aspect.

In German South-West Africa he had investigated cancer cases in a hamlet of seven different farms. Careful investigation by dowsing revealed that each of these farms was above water streams and each of the cancer cases had been sleeping directly above these water streams.

On returning to Europe Herr Dannert collaborated with a Dr. Heinrich, of Hagen, to determine by investigation whether it was possible to establish a connection of some form between these "earth rays" and cancer, and furthermore to determine definitely whether these earth rays were electrical or electro-magnetic in character. The result was that at first they thought the rays to be "gamma" rays or of the radioactive or X-ray type.

It was found later, however, that by placing a sheet of metal over the affected area, the dowsing rod did not show the presence of any ray at all, thus proving that these earthrays were not radioactive. They therefore set out to produce the rays artificially, and some time later finally devised an instrument similar to a television sender which could produce rays so that a rod held

by a dowser would indicate their presence. These rays were found to be of considerable wave length and of weak intensity. When the intensity was increased the rod became less affected.

In 1932 Dr. Jenny, of Aarau, in Switzerland, agreed to collaborate with Herr Dannert, and an affected zone, about four feet wide, was discovered by means of the rod, similar in intensity to that in the cancer area in German South-West Africa, mentioned previously. Sheds were then built to enclose an affected area and further to project over into the free area on one side. Several long cages were built and so placed that one half of the cage was directly over the affected area and the other half over the free zone. Mice were than placed in the cages and the food always placed at the end over the affected area.

Soon it was observed that the mice would never cross the centre of the cage from the free area to the affected area ; and, except to rush at first across to get their food, they avoided being in the affected area altogether. When the cages were reversed on their own axes by 180 degrees the mice fled, taking their young to the free area.

Further tests were carried out with mice placed in two cages, one over the affected area and the other outside the affected area. The females in the cage over the affected area did not bear young, but those over the free area did. Moreover, it was found after one year of this test that 13 per cent. of the mice over the affected area were suffering from spontaneous carcinoma. Those in the free area were free of all disease.

These latter tests were carried further by painting all mice in both cages with cancer " tar " behind the ears ; 100 per cent. of the mice over the affected area developed the disease, whilst only 17 per cent. of those over the free area were affected. All these mice died.

Experiments were also made with plants, the beds being placed partly over and partly clear of the affected zone. In due course the plants outside the affected zone bore flowers and fruit, whereas the plants over the affected zone gradually died.

German scientists gradually took notice of these experiments in Switzerland, and after some discussion Herr Dannert was invited to request a department of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute at Dortmund to carry out further experiments. The supervision of these new tests was carried out by Professors Dr. Graf and Dr. Kraut. Herr Dannert provided the Institute with the necessary funds and apparatus, and eventually the first complete apparatus was devised to produce artificially the same phenomena as were observed during the Swiss experiments. With this apparatus they concentrated their efforts on the investigation of

cancer conditions. A ray of 1.8 herz frequency, *i.e.*, of low frequency and very low intensity, was used.

At the end of the first year experiments with mice showed that of 123 animals 100 either died or had to be destroyed, as they were suffering from serious cancerous swellings. Comparison with the data obtained during the Swiss experiments showed that the new results were similar to those of the Swiss tests.

During the second year further ancillary experiments were made on the blood of the animals, and bodily weight. Every four weeks the animals were weighed and tested for haemoglobin content of the blood. The older mice over the affected area showed rapid decrease in weight and haemoglobin content of the blood, whereas the young mice over the ray at first showed increase in weight and haemoglobin content of the blood. Later on, the young mice over the ray showed considerable decrease of weight and haemoglobin content of the blood. All animals in the free area were completely healthy and showed no decrease in weight or haemoglobin content.

The third year's tests were carried out so that young and old mice were separated and were all tested for spontaneous cancer. It was found that the young animals were less subject to cancer than the old animals. Actually 13 per cent. of the old animals tested were found to be suffering from spontaneous cancer.

Similar experiments with plants showed that within 48 hours of planting those over the affected zone showed 50 per cent. less growth than those over the free area.

Experiments with tadpoles were carried out, some 300 being used. Of these, 150 animals were placed in a container in which were placed sand, swamp plants and water. This container was placed over the affected zone. The remaining 150 animals were similarly treated and placed over the free area. The following day the animals over the affected area were all ill, and four days later had all died. Those in the container in the free area were quite healthy, and were then divided up into two clean containers containing water, sand and swamp plants, making 75 animals in each container. One container was placed over the affected area and one in the free zone. The results obtained were similar to those in the first experiments.

Leeches were treated in a similar manner, and a curious phenomenon was noticed. Those over the ray made movements with their bodies similar to the frequency curve of the radiations. They apparently danced with the radiations, and they changed their rhythm when the frequency was changed.

On the third day a great many over the active zone died, but some of the animals lived on in spite of the action of the rays.

On the basis of all the foregoing experiments, therefore, it was determined that animals and plants must be affected by this "cancer" ray.

Herr Dannert then demonstrated his rod, which was made of steel wire, having the following shape :—

He also demonstrated a second rod, which was made of a coil of piano wire and was completely flexible, of the following shape :—

NORMAL SHAPE.

SHAPE AS "ROD."

Proceeding, Herr Dannert stated that for convenience sake they call that which affects the dowser and moves the rod the "Earth Ray."

There are various kinds of earth rays, each having a different frequency and intensity, and now definite conclusions have been reached regarding the biological reactions caused by such "rays." Three rows of ampoules, coloured brown, blue and red, were exhibited. Each ampoule contained a substance producing an effect equivalent to an "Earth Ray" of a certain wave length and intensity.

The *Brown* group of ampoules contain substances giving frequencies ranging from 20,000 to 25,000 herz, and these have a causative influence on all types of nervous troubles. The

ampoules are numbered 1 to 22 and divided up into three groups. The names and wave lengths will be communicated later.

The *Blue* group of ampoules contain substances having a causative influence on organic disorders, functional and pathological (heart, liver, &c.), having a frequency ranging from 1,000 to 15,000 herz. These are also numbered from 1 to 22, and the names and wave lengths will be communicated later.

The *Red* group of ampoules contain substances having a causative influence on blood troubles, and have a frequency ranging from 1 to 50 herz, the numbers in this group ranging from 1 to 11. No. 11 is that of germanium and is responsible for carcinoma. The numbers and names of this group will also be communicated later.

A *Research* ampoule prefaces each group and sub-group. It is a composite of all the substances contained in the group or sub-group. It is clipped into the distal or business end of a specially designed rod, also exhibited, for the purpose of testing and to determine in which group the suspected ray may be found. When this is ascertained, the rays of this particular group are then tested separately, in similar manner, to determine exactly which ray is present.

Instances were then given of the effectiveness of this method, which is still regarded as a rough manner of dealing with this subject. A great number of houses in Central Europe identified with long histories of cancer were examined and placed under observation and this particular ray was localized.

The responsibility, latterly, of overland cables for high tension electricity distribution was also examined, and there is no doubt that " radio waves " also have a definite effect on living creatures. " Fields of force " around the overland cables producing vagabond rays have been shown to have an effect similar to that of ampoule No. 11 of the Red Group previously mentioned, and experiments have shown that this particular ray has a predominating influence over other rays in its vicinity.

One case was examined where a subterranean stream a mile away from an overland cable showed signs of the cancer ray, *i.e.*, the rod showed deflection when red ampoule No. 11 was inserted into the distal. The brown and blue ampoules showed no deflection. One of the families living just underneath the cable had had a perfect history clinically for over 80 years, but soon after the installation of the overhead cable and pylon one father developed cancer and died shortly afterwards.

It was noticed that these rays affect antenatal life, preventing mice (female) from bearing young, and also pregnant mothers showed distinct signs of loss in weight and haemoglobin content

of the blood. Epileptic conditions were noticed amongst mothers who originated from families having no epilepsy in their family history. It is interesting to note that only 5 per cent. of all cancer cases have been recorded in persons whose family histories show cases of cancer.

Herr Dannert remarked that the presence of these rays can also be caused by abnormalities of the earth crust and that an underground stream would intensify such rays' influences.

At the conclusion of the lecture Mr. J. L. S. Renny showed the company a small case specially designed by Mr. Dannert's experts at his own laboratory and in the Laboratory at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute at Dortmund. This case was used to neutralise the effect of any of the detrimental rays within a certain radius. Three types of this apparatus have now been designed, the first for a field radius of 50 metres and over, the second for a radius of 25 to 50 metres and the third, a portable apparatus for travelling purposes, having a radius of 3 to 4 metres. These apparatus were sold by the "PHYLLAX" Company of Hagen, Westphalia, and the profits obtained from the sale were entirely devoted to the upkeep of the laboratories in Germany at Hagen, Dortmund, and latterly a very large laboratory in Munich.

[NOTE.—It is probable that Herr Dannert is mistaken in his use of the term "herz," which means a frequency of one cycle per second, or a wave length of 186,000 miles.—A.H.B.]

MEDICAL

A meeting was held on February 25th, at the rooms of the Royal Asiatic Society, at which a demonstration was given by Mr. L. E. Eeman of the effect of colour, communicated telepathically, on the human organism.

Before giving his demonstration, Mr. Eeman related how, when he first began to investigate the effects of Light and Colour on the living organism, in 1921, he was impressed with the necessity of obtaining complete relaxation in his subjects in order to make sure that the reactions observed were due to colour alone.

Once relaxation was obtained, Mr. Eeman's first experiments consisted in showing men or animals different coloured lights, and the following results were obtained : darkness made breathing shallower and slower, and slowed down the pulse ; white light produced the reverse effects. The seven colours of the spectrum, from red to violet, promoted greater expansion of the trunk downwards, that is, for instance, red promoted thoracic ; green, epigastric ; and violet, abdominal, expansion. Expansion was proportionate to volume of light, and breath frequency was highest for red and lowest for violet.

The next series of experiments demonstrated that the thought of black or white, or any of the seven colours, produced the same reactions as the sight of them, and that the expansion was governed by the amount of light thrown on the colour in the subject's mental image.

It was observed in both the above series of experiments that each colour tending to different breath frequencies, the sight or the thought of two colours sufficiently separated in the spectrum produced visible and feelable a synchronisation of the expansion of the appropriate portions of the trunk. This, when carried to extremes, produced a state of physiological conflict which frequently could only be resolved in some hysterical manifestation such as a giggling or sobbing fit.

The third series of experiments demonstrated that the same effects were produced on the bodies of subjects when, unknown to them, onlookers thought of black, white, or any of the seven colours of the spectrum, and that the appropriate physiological conflict was observed when one half of the onlookers thought of one colour and the other of another, confirming thereby the findings of earlier experiments and illustrating in addition a new method of experimental telepathy. It was this series of experiments which Mr. Eeman demonstrated before the Members of the British Society of Dowsers.

He regretted that space allowed him to use two subjects only, as six or more would have given results of greater statistical value.

We saw that various colours, chosen at random by the drawing of numbers, did, when thought of by the audience, produce specific reactions which were clearly observed by the onlookers and described, though less accurately, by the subjects themselves. When the two halves of the audience, unknown to each other, thought of different colours, we observed the physiological conflict described above in the subjects' bodies, and the stimulation caused by the thought of white and the sedative effect of the thought of black were in great contrast, although the subjects had no idea of what the audience were thinking.

Mr. Eeman explained that it had been found that linking up subjects by means of copper wires, left hand to head and right hand to base of spine (for right-handers), promoted progressive relaxation, whereas the reverse circuit acted as a stimulant, and that the first stimulated functions (autonomic system) and the second the voluntary muscular activity.

Notes

Maison de la Radiesthésie, 16 Rue St. Roch, Paris, has quite recently published a book by Comte de Marsay: Electricity, Magnetism and Radiesthesia. In this book the author wants simply to relate some of his experiences with rod and pendulum. He has studied very specially the various rays and divides them into electric and magnetic. He gives a very philosophical definition of rays and is satisfied in saying while quoting Henri Poincaré that they seem to be rays. Very rightly he writes that in radiesthesia the true detector is not the pendulum but the human body with its nervous system. Like Abbé Mermet, he insists on the importance of the *rayon fondamental*. He has found that everything has an electric and a magnetic ray and also that our fingers have each of them one of these two rays.

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The paper *La Radiesthésie Médicale*, published in Lyons, has brought out an interesting number. It specialises on the medical side of dowsing. There are many articles of purely medical interest, but we should like to mention a detailed study of the cancerous illness by Dr. Roux de la Roque.

There is an interesting description of a haunted house in Berne, Switzerland. For a long time this house has been empty through the fact that all its various inhabitants got seriously ill with a nervous state driving them to madness. Even the horses in

the stables could not sleep. It has been discovered that the house is not haunted in the usual sense of the word, but has been built on a spot where there are strong emanations of a highly radioactive substance coming from several small streams running from the mountains and finding their way to the subsoil.

It is painful to read the eternal controversy between radiesthésists and some medical men who simply will not even listen to what we have to say. A special number is devoted to the study of tuberculosis, but this is really too medical for the lay public. J.B.

NOTES AND NEWS

Captain Trinder writes : " I had a curious experience the other day. We were trying to find the position of two drains. With my rod I made out that one was about two feet from the other, but on digging we could not find it and eventually found it about 18 inches below the other. The interesting part is that it proves the use of the rule of the isosceles triangle, because the amount I was out was nearly exactly the same as the distance vertically between the two pipes. This shows that the deeper the object the further away will be the point at which the ray makes the surface."

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According to the *Western Guardian* of January 27th the Totnes Council is to employ a water diviner to inspect and report on the springs rising on the Dittisham Glebe Lands with a view to increasing the water supply.

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In the *Chronicle and Echo* of February 2nd a paragraph deals with a meeting of the Towcester R.D.C., at which it was stated that a water diviner had been employed to find a source of water supply for Blisworth.

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According to the *Sussex Daily News* of February 2nd a water diviner has found an underground passage in the churchyard of East Grinstead parish church leading in the direction of Brambletye. He used an empty glass bottle as a sample.

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The *Sussex County Magazine* for February contains an article on Mr. Noel Spong (B.S.D.), water diviner, of Henfield, Sussex.

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It was stated in the *Western Morning Mail* of February 14th that on the advice of certain water diviners the Crediton R.D.C. had made a bore of 150 feet to secure a water supply for Morchard Bishop, but without success. It was decided at a meeting of the Council to continue the bore for a further 50 feet.

It would be interesting to know who these diviners are.

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At a meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society at Edinburgh on February 18th, described in the *Scotsman* on the following day, a lecture was given by Mr. John Bowman, M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Edinburgh City Water Engineer, during which he is reported to have said that " water divining had been generally dis-discredited."

According to the *Sunday Times* of February 27th, Mr. Lloyd George employed the wife of a neighbour to locate a position for a borehole on his farm at Churt. After the bore had been made through a layer of ironstone, a supply of pure water amounting to over 40,000 gallons per hour is stated to have been obtained.

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The *Stratford-upon-Avon Herald* of March 4th contains a short paragraph on the monthly meeting of the Shipston-on-Stour R.D.C., at which it was stated that Mr. E. H. Earp had attempted to divine water on the housing site and various adjacent lands at Newbold-on-Stour, but had found none. The services of another water diviner to confirm Mr. Earp's opinion, that either there is very little water or that it is very deep, are to be obtained.

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According to the *Glasgow Evening Citizen* of March 4th the Wigtownshire County Council has agreed to employ a firm of water diviners with a view to augmenting the supplies at New Luce, Portlogan, Stoneykirk and other places. An engineer's estimate of cost amounted to a quarter-of-a-million pounds, which was considered prohibitive. The *Daily Record and Mail* of March 31st described a survey made by Mullins and Sons, of Bath.

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According to the *Yorkshire Evening Post* of March 10th Mr. H. E. Scott (B.S.D.), of Bradford, Yorks, assisted in the discovery of the body of Matthew Taylor. Using a cap as sample Mr. Scott followed a line to Ripley's mill dam. At a certain spot where the twig gave indications he drove a stake into the ground and the body was discovered opposite that point.

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The *Illustrated Leicestershire Chronicle* of March 19th contained an article on Mr. J. Clarke (B.S.D.), the well-known water diviner of Ab Kettleby.

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A short paragraph in the *Evening News* of March 22nd describes how the body of a missing woman was found in the river Othain as a result of an examination of her photograph, with the aid of a pendulum, by Gabriel Wéber, of Longuyon, near Nancy.

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In an article in the *Wiltshire Gazette* of March 31st there is an account of a meeting of the Devizes R.D.C., at which a report on the question of a supply of water to the War Department for the proposed barracks at Gore Cross, West Lavington, was received from the Council's engineers. It stated, *inter alia*, that Mr. Smith, the well-known water diviner of Chard, had explored

the area around the Broadwell spring and had located a spot where a supply of 250 to 300 thousand gallons per day would be found.

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Miss R. F. Verney has kindly communicated the following in connection with a water diviner who was well known in his day :—" It must have been in the last years of the eighteen-nineties that my father took some guests for a motor drive, and home past the cottage of our dowser. The guests wished to see him find water, so we stopped. He was quite willing, but said he knew his own bit of garden too well. Should he, instead, say which of us had most gold on him ? So he stood my father's walking-stick upright on the ground, and with his own hand half-way up it, asked us each in turn to grasp the handle. Then, to everyone's surprise he turned to me, a girl, and the youngest there, and said, " You have more gold on you than anyone." We all showed what we had, and indeed my purse was full, for I had just cashed a big cheque for my mother in the little country town."

CORRESPONDENCE

11 Shore Road,
Warsash,
Southampton.
March 10th, 1938.

Sir,

A charge often brought against dowsers by their opponents is that no two dowsers ever agree. I think we *do* agree much more than is generally supposed, but we express ourselves differently. It is important to simplify and unify our ideas. Some day we hope that a scientist of the calibre of a Rutherford will be impelled to investigate our art, and the British Society of Dowsers should have available for him facts which the great majority of us accept.

In this connection I have been particularly interested in the contributions of Major Robertson and Mr. Busby in the March number of the Journal. To deal with the latter first. Mr. Busby states that his lines and my serial numbers do not agree. Naturally not. My serial numbers are obtained in this way. I find that the position the rod tries to take up when standing over an object that affects it is pointing to the lower part of the stomach. Opposite to this is a neutral point or dead centre. If I start with the point of the rod below the dead centre it will tend to flick down; if above, it tends to flick up. Whichever way it goes is immaterial. The serial number is the number of times the rod will leave its point of departure over a special object. Personally, I find it much more convenient if the rod flicks up, and is long enough to come to rest against the chest; contact with this discharges it, and it is easily restored to its original position. If preferred, a shorter rod may be used and urged to make a complete circle. If the circle is not quite complete the rod will flick down again next time. Major Robertson gives an example of this type of thing. His rod leaves its point of departure four times, so I take it he was working over hard water; three times is the number I find for soft water. Mr Busby's lines are something quite different from this, and I have been doing some experiments with them. Starting with a plain iron rod, or bar magnet, placed on the edge of a spring, we get the normal reaction lines, and outside that another line, which we might call the Elvan line after its discoverer. Now take a combined iron and copper rod. The Elvan line remains where it is, but seven new lines appear, dividing the space between the Elvan line and the edge of the stream into eight equidistant spaces—3ft. 2in. in the case of my spring.

Now add a third metal—gold, silver, graphite, are the ones I have tried, and which three is of no consequence, and eight more lines appear, exactly half-way between the first lines found. The use of more than three metals does not seem to make any difference. The original spring edge reaction line remains where it always was, constant in position, like the Elvan line. I have had no opportunity of trying this over minerals, but it would appear that the Busby lines may prove to be a very valuable addition to serial numbers, particularly if they can be used to indicate depth as we are led to hope.

While working on this, I left a bar magnet on the edge of the stream all night, and on removing it timed the period required for the Elvan line to die away. It was five minutes. This residual effect is important. Major Robertson suggests standing over the spot from which one object has been removed, and "taking off" the ray. I suggest that the time required to do this is just about that required for the residual effect to die away naturally. Rocks taken from over radioactive matter take much longer to lose the residual effect—up to two days in my experience. In Theodore Besterman's book *Water Divining* we find on page 123 an account of how "emanations" may be bottled, by Mrs. Pogson. Residual effect would account for that which she describes, and I think that whether we talk of "emanations," "taking off the ray" or "residual effect," we are all describing the same thing.

Two of Major Robertson's experiments have defeated me so far. I can get no effect on the Cardinal points. Is this reaction found everywhere, or only over iron-impregnated ground? Also I cannot make the serial number of gold 1. Over a British sovereign I make it 22. The matrix of the gold might give me 1. The Argentine low grade ore, containing silver, iron and lead, gave 13. Yet we agree on silver. I make the serial number 16, he describes it as eight times up and eight times down. We agree on most other things, too. I find that there are three concentric circles of influence round any object, and his method of finding an object and avoiding "images" fits in well with this.

Before closing this letter I should like to ask other dowsers to try the following:—Using coloured knitting needles as a rod, all red responds to magnetic metal, all blue to non-magnetic. If either is rubbed, to electrify it, so that it attracts paper, &c., it loses its selective effect and is very sensitive to anything. Can anyone finding this suggest an explanation?

Yours faithfully,

F. L. M. BOOTHBY.

LES MANDARINIERS,
QUARTIER TRIANON,
ANTIBES, FRANCE.
March 24th, 1938.

DEAR COLONEL BELL,

That part of Major Robertson's interesting article in the March number of the Journal in which he sets forth his belief in the therapeutic value of gold radiations—page 112—seems to warrant my sending you the following references to the subject, which I have run across, and an observation out of my own experience. If you think these might be of interest to Journal readers, you are at liberty to publish them.

Monsieur Georges Lakhovsky, in his *La Nature et ses Merveilles*, writes at page 87 in his chapter of Radio-biology as follows :—

"When I learned the results obtained in the treatment of tuberculosis by certain salts of gold . . . this question bothered me for a long time. Finally, to get to the heart of it, I had an investigation made to satisfy myself as to whether people living in auriferous regions are attacked by tuberculosis in the same proportion that we are. I questioned certain doctors and friends from Colombia (South America), who told me that in this country of rich gold mines the percentage of tuberculosis is extremely small and even zero along certain rivers where there is a rich mixture of gold in the riverine sands. . . . You see that gold does not serve solely to give power to the capitalist or to fashion the 'golden calf,' which is still for many people a god to be worshipped, but also to radiate health for the good of all."

The case of my own observation occurred in the spring of 1901, when I was in the language school of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs at Nanking. Inclined as we Occidentals are in our first contacts with the Orient to find amusement in some of the absurd Chinese medical practices, we had a good laugh over the story of a missionary doctor who, when called in to prescribe for a fever patient close to death, found that the family had followed an age-old tradition of giving the patient water in which a gold ring had been boiled for several hours. That struck us as the height of stupidity and of slavery to superstition. With the passing of the years and the pronouncement by medical investigators that certain of the apparently foolish empiricisms of the Chinese correspond closely with some of the most carefully developed recent scientific theories, we come to wonder whether their use of gold may not have had more behind it than our initial ribald criticism would indicate.

Whatever the facts that may later be established by carefully

controlled experiments, I should incline very strongly to accept Major Robertson's belief that a clinic built over a section of strong gold reef might be effective, if it be proven that gold emanations do possess therapeutic value, for I have had striking evidence of the penetrating or travelling power of the gold radiations. One instance is significant.

When the ship on which I was crossing the Atlantic was shown by the noon-day observations to be just 300 miles from New York, I ran down to my cabin to see if my most powerful gold-sensitive pendulum would pick up the radiations from a certain building which it had on a previous visit always felt within a radius of about 200 miles—the greatest distance at which I had tried to check it. Incredible as it may seem, even there in the steel-surrounded cabin it took immediately the line toward the city. Going back up to the open deck, I found it indicating the same direction, which one of the officers confirmed as correct for New York.

As another instance I might cite that my associate, Mr. Max Bourcart, has a pendulum which, from so far away as Lausanne, feels a reef near the top of the Simplon Pass.

Recalling with much pleasure the courtesies shown me by yourself and other members of the Society in October last, I am,

Yours sincerely,

LEWIS S. PALEN.

43 Traverse Perier,
Marseilles.
March 8th, 1938.

Dear Sir,

Going through the March number of the B.S.D.'s Journal, which, by the way, is all very interesting, I have been specially attracted by the last paragraph of Major Struan Robertson, *re* Gold Rays cure for Rheumatic Gout and Arteriosclerosis.

I am a great believer in the influence of metals in helping the cure of illness, and often refer to the second part of Frère Padey's book, mentioned in your Journal, *Traité Complet des secrets de la Baguette et du Pendule des Sourciers.*

I often experienced the good effect of metals, such as silver frictions for pleurisy, red copper for angina pectoris (gold is also good for the latter complaint, as for all heart troubles).

Of course a syntonisation of the required metal with the patient is needed, and I remember that once, being too lazy to see with my pendulum what brought the pain I was suffering on my right side, I took it it was due to a recrudescence of former pleurisy and rubbed my side with silver, whilst in fact it was my liver

that was wrong and needed gold. No need to say my liver vehemently complained under the improper effect of silver.

From personal investigations I have noticed silver is also very efficient in cases of nervous complaints or excitement.

Once metal to be used has been properly syntonised as suitable for the patient's ailment, it is necessary to insulate it before using it for frictions. To this effect, it should be put on a glass or rubber plate (so as to isolate it from the ground) and left in the sun or mere daylight for some hours. The insulation "vivifies" the metal and makes the frictions more effective.

Another caution when applying the frictions to the ailing part of the body is that fingers holding the metal should not touch the part of the skin that is being rubbed.

Three-minute frictions thrice a day are sufficient.

Yours faithfully,

H. GIRRE.

P.W.D., KITUGUM,
NORTHERN PROVINCE,
UGANDA,
EAST AFRICA.
January 2nd, 1938.

DEAR COLONEL BELL,

I feel I must write and tell you of a queer experience I had in dowsing a site for a water bore at a place called Loyoro, in the Karamojo district. I had moved along in advance of my staff and drilling plant to seek out the Sasa Chief, and, as is usual, as I went along with my rod, quite a small crowd of natives followed.

At last I got a splendid reaction, and the chief was delighted that I had selected a site for the bore quite near his own village. He began explaining to the following that in a short time they would have plenty of water there, just where we stood. Meanwhile I was counting the lifts of my rod to estimate depth and volume, my method of calculation being in the principle of one turn, one metre.

When I had finished I asked one of the naked native boys if he would like to feel my "ju-ju." He came forward, and I gave him the whalebone rod as I hold it myself. Judge my surprise when I saw him turn that sickly elephant grey colour common to Africans in illness; he was a healthy shining ebony a moment before. He seemed quite unable to let go of the rod, and to prevent him from falling I placed one of my hands on his breast and the other on his back; believe me, his poor heart was thumping like a trip-hammer.

I got him away from the place a distance of 20 yards or so, where he soon recovered; but during the whole of the time the well was being constructed that boy would never come to within 20 yards of the site.

And now, as to my theory. You, of course, know how these people bind up their wrists, ankles and necks with copper, aluminium, and all kinds of wire, bind themselves tightly, too. Well, this boy had wire bound to several inches deep on each of his wrists, ankles, and also around his neck. It is my contention that being highly susceptible he got some kind of a shock, or, perhaps, overcome by nausea, not understanding the rod wriggling and twisting. It's hard just to understand what he did feel; he would never talk about it afterwards. Perhaps some member of B.S.D. can explain it.

Is it possible that his heart was affected? I see J. M'C. Brown states in December's Journal that the heart quickens "to a marked degree," but does this apply to all in general? I believe I have felt something of the kind myself at times, but always after I have done a lot of dowsing I get most excruciating pains in my left arm, shoulder and up the left-hand side of the neck to the head.

You will understand that all my experience has been gained in the field of general practice—I know very little of the scientific side of it—but you will probably realize that Africa offers a very fair field for the dowser; the granite is outcrop in most places, and any water found is in minute crevices and loughs so that detection is, on the whole, difficult. Our Geological Section is working in collaboration with us, but if results in Karamojo are any criterion, I think the dowsers have it; they had one success in Karamojo only. I only failed on three occasions to locate a decent supply of water. None of my selected sites were absolutely dry, and in Africa, where every gallon counts for something, I think my record is fairly good. A well yielding 100 gallons per hour is considered good; one yielding 1,000 gallons per hour is considered exceptional.

Incidentally, the well at Loyoro, where the incident of the boy occurred, was tested to 1,400 gallons per hour and is the best well we have drilled so far.

Yours truly,

W. M. TODD.

REVIEWS

WATER DIVINING: NEW FACTS AND THEORIES.

By T. Besterman. *Methuen*, 7/6.

The latter part of the title of this book is a little misleading. The first 141 of the 203 pages contain accounts of successful dowsings, written by the dowsers themselves, and sufficiently documented to be accepted as further evidence of the fact that dowsers can find water and sometimes other things. The methods employed appear to differ little from those described in *The Divining Rod*, and not all the findings described have happened since the publication of that book. Dowsers will probably be disappointed by this part of the book, as the methods used are neither new nor, in most cases, described sufficiently clearly to be of interest.

While one must agree with the author that unscientific dowsers, each of whom tends to have his own theory of "why," are unlikely to happen on the explanation of the process, it seems probable that a careful study of successful methods, and the observed reactions of the dowser himself, might lead a scientist nearer to the correct explanation.

Theory (Part II.) begins well with a most interesting discussion between two holders of the physical theory, one willing to accept the teaching of Mager and go even further, and the other denying the possibility of the use of samples, the diagnosis of disease, and dismissing the hypotheses and investigations of his vis-a-vis as the chimeras of laymen. The author then proceeds to re-state his complete belief in the psychical theory, without producing any arguments other than those put forward in *The Divining Rod*, and he fails to give the new theories which the title seemed to promise.

There is no mention of the recent work of Mr. Budgett. Mr. Maby is mentioned, but the fact that instruments now exist which give results over places where dowsers have located streams, and which might be evidence in favour of a possible physical theory, is not mentioned. On the other hand, many phenomena which might be considered to support the psychical theory, such as medical diagnosis and dowsing over maps, are also almost neglected.

The author's last paragraph is provocative. Does the dowser find water by other than normal means? The horse and the sheep are known to be able to locate underground water at a distance. Are they to be considered psychic? The builders of tumuli invariably sited them exactly on underground streams.

Could it not be that the power of dowsing is simply a latent and neglected instinct—and normal?

This book contains many useful warnings against the pitfalls of auto-suggestion and carelessness in thought and method of work. For this alone it is worth reading by all dowsers, but for the rest it is no more than the relation of experiences with little or no advance to the solutions of the problems of the "How" and "Why" of dowsing. We hope that Mr. Besterman will continue his researches and that in his next book he will not feel obliged to omit the full discussion on current theories because of its negative character, as he admits to having done on page 175 of this book.

There are several misprints in names. Mr. H. O. Bushy should be Mr. H. O. Busby, Vicomte Henri de France should be Vicomte Henry de France, and Miss Eleanor Peele should be Mrs. Eleanor Peele.

K.W.M.

ÉLECTRICITÉ, MAGNÉTISME, RADIESTHÉSIE.

By the Comte de Marsay. *Maison de la Radiesthésie*, 16 Rue Saint-Roch, Paris.

The Comte de Marsay has written a most intriguing book. In his preface he hints that it will be freely criticised in "scientific circles," and he is probably right, but whether he or his critics gain the day he is to be congratulated on having planned and carried out experiments, the results of which should be of great interest to all practical dowsers, and may prove to be of considerable inportance.

His book is, in the main, a detailed and thoroughly entertaining account of a series of experiments in divining which have led him to suggest the theory that the dowser's rod (or pendulum) reacts to two different kinds of radiation, one of which resembles electricity and the other magnetism, and that these two types of radiation have distinctive characteristics. He does not claim that they *are* electricity and magnetism—only that they appear to be *d'allure électrique* and *d'allure magnétique*.

His theories began to take shape as a result of an attempt to verify, with delicate scientific instruments, the theory of human polarity. He found that a difference of potential between the two sides of the human body was not demonstrable with the most perfect of scientific instruments. By taking in his hands two electrodes connected with his apparatus, the dial did certainly indicate a current of from three to four microampères,

but subsequent experiments showed that the same current passed when the electrodes were in contact with the same side of the body or even with two different fingers of the same hand. The possibility of electric polarity, therefore, seemed to be ruled out and he concluded that he was confronted with a phenomenon in the nature of the thermo-electric pile, the pile being constituted by contact of the electrodes with the skin at different points which were never of precisely the same temperature.

But while he had not proved to his satisfaction what he had set out to prove, his experiments led him to the other, and quite different discovery, which he believes may have an important effect on the study of dowsing. He found that when he held in his two hands a pliable metal rod, not insulated, a current of from three to four microampères passed through the rod.

Having made this discovery, he took a length of wire and cut it into two portions. One of these he bent into a V-shape. With this instrument he proceeded to make a series of experiments in a room which had what he describes as four "zones of radiesthetic action." By this he means that every inhabited room (containing fireplaces, metal ornaments and what not) has various zones at which an ordinary whalebone rod will react. In the room in which he experimented there were four such zones detectable by his own whalebone rod. These zones he refers to as A, B, C and D. Then, using his new V-shaped wire as a detector, he found that it remained passive at A, B and C, but reacted at D.

His next step was to take his remaining piece of wire and twist it into a spiral shape, so that he had a solenoid of which the two ends rested in his hands. The form given to this rod could not prevent the passage of a current, but a solenoid through which a current is passed becomes a magnet and, experimenting with it, he found that it reacted at A, B and C, but not at D.

These two experiments led him to surmise that the fields at A, B and C were of a different nature to that at D and that those at A, B and C had an affinity to magnetism while that at D had an affinity to electricity.

With the object of confirming his hypothesis, he took an elder pith ball, suspended it by a silk thread, charged it with a glass rod, walked towards it with what he now began to call the "magnetic" rod, and got no reaction. But there was a strong reaction when he approached it with his "electric" rod, thus apparently proving that the "electric" rod had something in common with electricity. Then, placing a magnetised bar on a small table, he passed in front of one of the poles with his "electric" rod without experiencing a reaction, although with his "magnetic" rod he got a decided reaction.

His hypothesis, therefore, seemed to be completely confirmed.

Further experiments indicated that an "electric" radiation emanating from an object was projected *continuously* in an outward direction, while one with an affinity to magnetism radiated in circles (or possibly ellipses) rather as though a stone were thrown into calm water and the resulting ripples were suddenly frozen.

From this point onwards, the author applies the knowledge gained, and his further experiments lead him to conclusions that will interest all keen dowsers, many of whom may be tempted to challenge some of them. For example, the Comte de Marsay is inclined to draw the conclusion (from experiments which he describes in great detail) that the differences in the "series" indicated by Mermet and Voillaume are due to the fact that the radiations from a given substance, if of an electric nature, provoke a certain number of reactions while if they are of a magnetic nature they often (though not always) produce a different number.

He believes that Mermet took his "series" numbers from "electric" radiations, that Voillaume took his from "magnetic" radiations, while he (the author) picks up sometimes the one and sometimes the other, according to the manner in which he operates.

It is impossible in a short review to give a complete conception of the scope of these 123 thought-provoking pages. It can only be added, therefore, that the author also deals (in the light of the knowledge gained from his particular line of research) with the selective capacity of the brain, with the application of dowsing in the sphere of medicine and diet, and many other interesting things. If his conclusions are correct, those dowsers who prescribe diet by the use of the rod or pendulum would do well to verify his conclusions about the difference between the "electric" and "magnetic" radiations and their effect when applied to this type of work.

It is a very readable book, expressed with great clarity. The experiments are all most carefully described, and it will be of quite unusual interest to know, when other good dowsers have experimented on the lines indicated by the author, whether his theories are confirmed. H.W.J.

ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR WÜNSCHELRUTENFORSCHUNG.

(November and December, 1937, and January, 1938).

November.—This number contains the reports of the meeting of the executive committee of the Reichsverband, of the general meeting, and of the meeting of the research committee. All these meetings were held at Amberg in September, 1937.

The Reichsverband has been caught up in the new wave of

German racial enthusiasm ; and " the accounts of foreign organisations and literature will have to be markedly reduced ; while, on the other hand, there will be published more frequent accounts of new German dowsing literature." Foreigners can no longer be admitted as members of the German professional body of dowsers, as this is now a member of the " D.A.F." (German workers front). Such foreigners as wish it, however, may present themselves for examination and be granted a diploma.

During its sitting the research committee discussed the utility of such measuring instruments as the double compass and the gerameter. In this discussion Dr. Michels advocated the control of dowsing experiments by means of the known and proved physical apparatus, in place of the above mentioned, which was still unproved. Dr. Osswald, however, was of the opinion that while such a course might be desirable, yet that the geophysical apparatus was too costly and clumsy in comparison with the other, which was both cheap and easily transportable.

Dr. O. contributes a short note on " Dowsers and Leaks in Dams." He refers to the well-known work of Döll on the subject (see *Handbuch der Wünschelrute*) and cites an account of a similar case published in *Bautechnik* (vol. 14, part 53) by an engineer, Dr. Collorio, of Hanover, working with Dr. Schöndorf, of Hildesheim.

A very interesting paper on lignite and its sources in Germany is contributed by Dr. Francé. Apparently the United States, Germany and Czecho-Slovakia are the chief producers of lignite, which is, according to the author, of vast economic importance to Germany. The paper is purely geological, and does not deal with dowsing.

Two correspondents write to the effect that the wearing of a gas mask affects the dowsers' sensitivity.

December.—Dr. Franz Wetzel contributes an article entitled " Occultism, superstition and error." This article is mainly polemic, and is directed at the irreconcilable opponents of dowsing.

Ing. Volker Fritsch writes on " The influence of the weather on the rod reaction." He gives diagrams showing the reactions obtained during dry weather and subsequent rainy periods. He comes to the conclusion that " as the saturation of the ground increases the dowser becomes less and less able to experience useful reactions." Dr. O. appends a note on behalf of the research committee, which suggests that it is difficult to come to definite conclusions from the sketches and notes supplied by Herr Fritsch, but that the communication opens up a profitable field of research, which they commend for consideration to the provincial and local groups.

SOME BOOKS ON DOWSING AND HUMAN RADIATION

The Divining Rod, by Sir William Barrett and Theodore Besterman : Methuen, 7/6.

Water Divining, by Theodore Besterman : Methuen, 7/6.

Water Diviners and their Methods, by H. Mager (translation) : Bell, 16/-.

The Modern Dowser, by Le Vicomte Henry de France (translation) : 2nd Edition. Bell, 4/6.

The Art of Water Finding, by M. E. Pogson : obtainable from the President, B.S.D., post free, 1/8.

Local Variations in a Penetrating Radiation and their Connection with Water Divining, by H. M. Budgett : obtainable from the President, B.S.D., -/6.

The Human Atmosphere (*the Aura*), by W. J. Kilner : Kegan Paul.

The Origin and Properties of the Human Aura, by Oscar Bagnall : Kegan Paul.

Les Sourciers et leurs Procédés, by H. Mager.

Traité complet des secrets de la Baguette et de la Pendule des Sourciers, by Frère Padey, 65 fr.

Le Sourcier Moderne, by Henry de France, 5th Edition, 10 fr.

Comment j'opère, by Abbé Mermet, 4th and enlarged edition, 25 fr.

La Radiesthésie (explaining Abbé Bouly's method), by M. A. Capron, 15 fr.

Comment devenir Sourcier, by Armand Viré, 18 fr.

Tu Seras Sourcier, by Emile Christophe, 20 fr.

Manuel théorique et pratique de Radiesthésie, by René Lacroix-à-l'Henri : Henri Dangles, 38 rue de Moscou, Paris (8e), 20 fr.

La Radio-Tellurie, by M. Larvaron and Dr. J. Regnault : Maison Deyrolle, 46 rue du Bac, Paris, 18 fr.

Essai sur les Rayonnements de l'Homme et des Etres vivants, by C. Voillaume.

Cours de Radiesthésie, by Henri Lemonnier : Maison de la Radiesthésie, 16 rue Saint-Roch, Paris.

La Vérité sur la Radiesthésie, by Paul Serres : Dunod, Paris.

Le Pendule Magique, by Madame de Mersseman : Maison de la Radiesthésie, Paris, 15 fr.

Electricité Magnétisme Radiesthésie, by Comte de Marsay : Maison de la Radiesthésie, Paris, 12 fr.

Investigación de aguas subterrancas, by Bartolomé Darder Pericás.

Handbuch der Wünschelrute, by Carl Graf von Klinckowstroem and Rudolf Freiherr von Maltzahn.

Die Wünschelrute, by Hans Falkinger.